

**From:** Ralph  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 11/11/01 8:30pm  
**Subject:** What a sell out!!

I am very disappointed to see the U.S. government cave into Microsoft after so many years of hard work. I do not believe the agreement will restore competition in the PC software market but will instead cement Microsoft's excessively dominant position. How could you negotiate such a swiss cheese agreement?

Like you forced IBM to unbundle hardware and software, you should have forced Microsoft to unbundle the operating system with applications.

Here is what you should have done:

- \* Remove all applications: browser, media player, passport, instant messenger, etc, from base OS.
- \* Require Microsoft to provide an application CD with these applications instead.
- \* Require all PC manufacturers to include a full CD of non-Microsoft software. Such software can be freeware, shareware, trialware, or open source.

Forbid the sale of any Microsoft OS, retail or pre-installed, without these two CD's.

Consumer chooses what mix of applications to install from either CD. The consumer gets to choose the best from each.

Instead, what you have done is harm the consumer by limiting the choices the consumer can make. Clueless consumers will take the Microsoft applications by default. Innovation will suffer.

Too bad I can't tell you who I am, for fear of retribution from Microsoft.